

Message

From: Ash, Christine [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=722E1AE6CF144067907C9B4052BDA56B-ASH, CHRISTINE A.]
Sent: 11/1/2018 5:51:53 PM
To: Kraft, Nicole [Kraft.Nicole@epa.gov]; McKenna, Douglas [McKenna.Douglas@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Administrator Highlight on Newark - HAA5 and Background

Importance: High

FYI.

Christine Ash

Chief, Drinking Water and Ground Water Protection Section
EPA Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007
ash.christine@epa.gov
(212) 637-4006

From: Laureano, Javier
Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2018 1:50 PM
To: Mugdan, Walter <Mugdan.Walter@epa.gov>
Cc: Ash, Christine <Ash.Christine@epa.gov>; Pabst, Douglas <Pabst.Douglas@epa.gov>; Gratz, Jeff <Gratz.Jeff@epa.gov>; Lyon, Christopher <lyon.christopher@epa.gov>; DAgostino, Daniel <DAgostino.Daniel@epa.gov>
Subject: Administrator Highlight on Newark - HAA5 and Background
Importance: High

Hi Walter. As requested, here you have a highlight for the Administrator and background information on HAA5. I want to thank Christine Ash, Dan D'Agostino, and Doug McKenna for drafting and revising this information expeditiously.

Javier

Newark, NJ – Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Violations

On October 31, 2018, EPA Region 2 was made aware of the elevated levels of haloacetic acids, or "HAA5," in Newark, NJ's drinking water based on sampling from the quarter ending on September 30, 2018. HAA5 are regulated by the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts rules (DBPR) under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) reached out to EPA Region 2 to discuss their response to address this issue, and will be issuing the Newark Water Department a violation letter. Long term consumption of drinking water with elevated HAA5 levels is associated with certain health risks. EPA Region 2 will continue to work with the NJDEP on this issue.

Background

The Newark Water Department is a public water system serving over 270,000 people. The system has had compliance issues with the DBPR in the past. In 2017, the Newark Water Department had lead action level exceedances and is currently working to revise their corrosion control treatment pursuant to an Administrative Consent Order with NJDEP. Treatment modifications will need to consider simultaneous compliance with both the DBPR maximum contaminant levels and the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR).

Recently, the City of Newark distributed filters to homes in Newark with lead service lines following sampling in two homes with lead service lines that showed lead levels at approximately 148 and 400 ppb (the lead action level is 15 ppb). There are nearly 18,000 known lead service lines in the City of Newark; another 5,600 lines are unknown. In Newark, lead service lines are owned by homeowners, not the Newark Water Department, therefore they are not subject to the 7% lead service line replacement required by the Lead and Copper Rule. However, the Newark Water Department has

initiated a 10-year lead service line replacement program which plans to replace approximately 1,600 lead service lines a year using Drinking Water State Revolving Fund monies.

NJDEP has primacy for the drinking water program and is the lead on working with Newark. EPA is closely engaged with NJDEP, both to monitor the situation in Newark and to provide assistance as needed, and will work with NJDEP, the Mayor of Newark, and other federal and state agencies as appropriate, to identify short- and long-term strategies to provide protection to the community.